

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/419,350

Applicant(s)

ROBINS ET AL.

Examiner

Abdulhakim Nobahar

Art Unit

2132

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07 September 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-85.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 October 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please renumber the claims according to the attached list of claims.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-85 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reasons for the allowance of the independent claims 1, 6, 12, 16, 17, 21, 26, 28, 29, 33, 38, 40, 41-44, 77 and 81-84 are the inclusion of the following limitations that are not found in the prior art and they are uniquely distinct features. The closest prior art are Hacherl (6,324,571 B1) and Kung (5,241,594). Hacherl discloses a method and system for switching exclusive authority such as domain controller role to perform a particular system-wide task between multiple servers in a network of

computers. Hacherl further discloses that his method and system also applicable in other computer system configurations such as multi-processor systems. Kung teaches methods for authenticating users in a distributed networked computer system. Kung further teaches a database in a server for holding the encrypted password accessible by clients. However, These two arts, singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the following limitation:

“Claims 1 and 82: a third memory accessible by said first PE, said third memory having a location for storing an enable password for said first PE, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands; and

a password passer writing said enable password of said first PE to the fourth memory accessible by said second PE.”

“Claims 6 and 83: a password memory accessible by said first and second PEs, having a location for storing an enable password for the system, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands; and

a password keeper for maintaining said enable password of said password memory for said first and second PEs.”

“Claim 12: an interface capable of communicating with the password server over the information bus, said interface obtaining an enable password from the password server in response to a request from either one of said first and second PEs, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

“Claims 16 and 81: a first interface for said first PE, said first interface capable of communicating user authentication requests and responses with the password server over the information bus, said interface obtaining an enable password from the password server in response to a request from said first PE, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

“Claims 17 and 29: writing said enable password of said first PE to a third memory accessible by said second PE, said enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

“Claims 21 and 33: providing a password memory accessible by said first and second PEs, having a location for storing an enable password, said enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands; and

maintaining said enable password for said first and second PEs in said password memory.”

"Claim 26: sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of a server coupled to the high reliability computer system via an information bus, said enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands."

"Claim 28: sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of a password server coupled to the high reliability computer system via an information bus, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands; and

communicating user authentication requests and responses with the password server over the information bus via a first interface and obtaining the enable password from the password server for the first PE, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands."

"Claim 38: sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of a password server coupled to the high reliability computer system via an information bus, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands on the high reliability computer system."

"Claim 40: sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of an authentication, authorization and accounting (AAA) server coupled to the high reliability computer system via an information bus, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands on the high reliability computer system."

"Claim 41: means for writing said enable password of said first PE to a third memory accessible by said second PE, said enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands."

"Claim 42: means for providing said first and second PEs with access to an enable password, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands."

"Claim 43: means for sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of a password server coupled to the high reliability computer system via an information bus, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands on the high reliability computer system."

"Claim 44: means for sending an enable password for the high reliability computer system for storage in a database of a password server coupled to the high

reliability computer system via an information bus, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

“Claim 77: an interface capable of communicating with said password server over the information bus, said interface obtaining an enable password from said password server in response to a request from either one of said first and second PEs, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

“Claim 84: an interface coupled to said first and second PEs via the bus, said interface being capable of communicating with a password server over an information bus, said interface obtaining an enable password from the password server in response to a request from either one of said first and second PEs, the enable password protecting access to a privileged mode and execution of privileged mode commands.”

The dependent claims 2-5, 7-11, 13-15, 18-20, 22-25, 27, 30-32, 34-37, 39, 46-76, 78-80 and 85 are allowed because they were originally found to include a unique feature not found in the closest abovementioned art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 571-272-3808. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdulhakim Nobahar  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2132 *A.N.*

AN

December 2, 2004

*Gilberto Barron*  
**GILBERTO BARRON**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**